Chapter 2

SOME BENEFITS OF ISLAM

Islam provides many benefits for the individual and the society. This chapter mentions some of the benefits gained through Islam for the individual.

(1) The Door to Eternal Paradise

God has said in the Qur'an:

> ﴾ **And give good news (O Muhammad) to those who believe and do good deeds, that they will have gardens (Paradise) in which rivers flow....** ﴿ **(Qur'an, 2:25)**

God has also said:

> ﴾ **Race one with another for forgiveness from your Lord and for Paradise, whose width is as the width of the heavens and the earth, which has been prepared for those who believe in God and His messengers....** ﴿ **(Qur'an, 57:21)**

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ told us that the lowest in rank among the dwellers of Paradise will have ten times the like of this world,[1] and he or she will have whatever he or she desires and ten times like it.[2] Also, the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: **{ A space in Paradise equivalent to the size of a foot would be better than the world and what is in it. }**[3] He also said: **{ In Paradise there are things which no eye has seen, no ear has heard, and no human mind has thought of. }**[4] He also said: **{ The most miserable man in the world of those meant for Paradise will**

---

(1) Narrated in *Saheeh Muslim*, #186, and *Saheeh Al-Bukhari*, #6571.
(2) Narrated in *Saheeh Muslim*, #188, and *Mosnad Ahmad*, #10832.
(3) Narrated in *Saheeh Al-Bukhari*, #6568, and *Mosnad Ahmad*, #13368.
(4) Narrated in *Saheeh Muslim*, #2825, and *Mosnad Ahmad*, #8609.

be dipped once in Paradise. Then he will be asked: "Son of Adam, did you ever face any misery? Did you ever experience any hardship?" So he will say: "No, by God, O Lord! I never faced any misery, and I never experienced any hardship." }[1]

If you enter Paradise, you will live a very happy life without sickness, pain, sadness, or death; God will be pleased with you; and you will live there forever. God has said in the Qur'an:

> **﴾ But those who believe and do good deeds, We will admit them to gardens (Paradise) in which rivers flow, lasting in them forever.... ﴿ (Qur'an, 4:57)**

(Please visit **www.islam-guide.com/hereafter** for more information on Paradise or the life after death.)

(2) Salvation from Hellfire

God has said in the Qur'an:

> **﴾ Those who have disbelieved and died in disbelief, the earth full of gold would not be accepted from any of them if one offered it as a ransom. They will have a painful punishment, and they will have no helpers. ﴿ (Qur'an, 3:91)**

So, this life is our only chance to win Paradise and to escape from Hellfire, because if someone dies in disbelief, he will not have another chance to come back to this world to believe. As God has said in the Qur'an about what is going to happen for the unbelievers on the Day of Judgment:

> **﴾ If you could but see when they are set before the Fire (Hell) and say: "Would that we might return (to the world)! Then we would not reject the verses of our Lord, but we would be of the believers!" ﴿ (Qur'an, 6:27)**

But no one will have this second opportunity.

---

(1) Narrated in *Saheeh Muslim*, #2807, and *Mosnad Ahmad*, #12699.

The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ said: **{ The happiest man in the world of those doomed to the Fire (Hell) on the Day of Judgment will be dipped in the Fire once. Then he will be asked: "Son of Adam, did you ever see any good? Did you ever experience any blessing?" So he will say: "No, by God, O Lord!" }**[1]

(3) Real Happiness and Inner Peace

Real happiness and peace can be found in submitting to the commands of the Creator and the Sustainer of this world. God has said in the Qur'an:

> **﴾ Truly, in remembering God do hearts find rest. ﴿ (Qur'an, 13:28)**



On the other hand, the one who turns away from the Qur'an will have a life of hardship in this world. God has said:

> **﴾ But whoever turns away from the Qur'an,[2] he will have a hard life, and We will raise him up blind on the Day of Judgment. ﴿ (Qur'an, 20:124)**

This may explain why some people commit suicide while they enjoy the material comfort money can buy. For example, look at Cat Stevens (now Yusuf Islam), formerly a famous pop singer who used to earn sometimes more than $150,000 a night. After he converted to Islam, he found true happiness and peace, which he had not found in material success.[3]

---

(1) Narrated in *Saheeh Muslim*, #2807, and *Mosnad Ahmad*, #12699.
(2) i.e. neither believes in the Qur'an nor acts on its orders.
(3) The present mailing address of Cat Stevens (Yusuf Islam), in case you would like to ask him about his feelings after he converted to Islam, is: 2 Digswell Street, London N7 8JX, United Kingdom.

To read the stories of people who have converted to Islam, please visit **www.islam-guide.com/stories** or refer to the book entitled *Why Islam is Our Only Choice*.[1] At this web page and in this book, you can read the thoughts and feelings of these people, who are from different countries and have different backgrounds and levels of education.

(4) Forgiveness for All Previous Sins

When someone converts to Islam, God forgives all of his previous sins and evil deeds. **A man called Amr came to the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ and said: "Give me your right hand so that I may give you my pledge of loyalty." The Prophet ﷺ stretched out his right hand. Amr withdrew his hand. The Prophet ﷺ said: { What has happened to you, O Amr? } He replied: "I intend to lay down a condition." The Prophet ﷺ asked: { What condition do you intend to put forward? } Amr said: "That God forgive my sins." The Prophet ﷺ said: { Didn't you know that converting to Islam erases all previous sins? }**[2]

After converting to Islam, the person will be rewarded for his or her good and bad deeds according to the following saying of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ: **{ Your Lord, Who is blessed and exalted, is most merciful. If someone intends to do a good deed but does not do it, a good deed will be recorded for him. And if he does do it, (a reward of) ten to seven hundred or many more times (the reward of the good deed), will be recorded for him. And if someone intends to do a bad deed but does not do it, a good deed will be recorded for him. And if he does do it, a bad deed will be recorded against him or God will wipe it out. }**[3]



(1) This book is by Muhammad H. Shahid. For a copy of this book, please visit **www.islam-guide.com/stories** or contact one of the organizations listed on pages 69-70.
(2) Narrated in *Saheeh Muslim*, #121, and *Mosnad Ahmad*, #17357.
(3) Narrated in *Mosnad Ahmad*, #2515, and *Saheeh Muslim*, #131.